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[redacted]

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

CITE [redacted]

[redacted] 31 23 01 7 DIST 31 JULY 1967 1.3(a)(4) C

COUNTRY: UAR

DOI: [redacted]

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF DEPUTY UAR PRIME MINISTER ZAKARIYAH MUHIY AL DIN ON HIS POWER STATUS WITHIN THE UAR

ACQ:

SOURCE: [redacted] 1.3(a)(4)(5) C

1. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MUHIY AL DIN SAID THAT UAR PRESIDENT NASIR HAS PROMISED TO ALLOW HIM TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT IN OCTOBER 1967, AT WHICH TIME HE (NASIR) WILL RETIRE TO BE ONLY PRESIDENT AND HEAD OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST UNION (ASU). MUHIY AL DIN SAID THAT HE AGREED TO THIS ON CONDITION THAT ALI SABRI BE LEFT OUT OF THE CABINET FORMED IN OCTOBER. [redacted] COMMENT: SABRI IS A LEFTIST IN THE UAR

[redacted] 1.3(a)(4) C

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
JAN 1995

1.3(a)(4)
C

[redacted] (Classification) (Limited Distribution)

POLITICAL SPECTRUM AND WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE NEW CABINET FORMED 19 JUNE 1967.) MUHIY AL DIN SAID THAT IF NASIR TRIED TO IMPOSE SABRI ON HIM, HE WOULD "GO HOME" AND NASIR WOULD HAVE TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES AND REMAIN IN POWER TO COPE WITH SABRI AND HIS COMMUNIST FRIENDS ALONE.

2. MUHIY AL DIN SAID THAT RUSSIAN AID WAS INDEED BEING GIVEN WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED, BUT THIS HAD THE EFFECT OF ALLOWING SABRI TO PUT HIS PRO-COMMUNIST FRIENDS IN IMPORTANT POSTS, WHICH IS THE BEST THING POSSIBLE FOR RUSSIA. HE ADDED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE TOLD THE UAR THEY WILL REPLACE ALL TANKS AND PLANES LOST IN THE WAR, AND KOSYGIN CONFIRMED IT TO SUDANESE PRIME MINISTER MAHJUB IN NEW YORK.

3. MUHIY AL DIN SAID HE HAD INSISTED THAT HE HAVE A PROMISE TO GET RID OF SABRI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, OCTOBER AT THE LATEST, BUT DID AGREE IN THE END TO KEEP HIM ON AS A MINISTER UNTIL OCTOBER. NASIR TOLD MUHIY AL DIN THAT HE COULDN'T DO EVERYTHING IN ONE DAY, AND THAT SABRI WAS ALREADY OUT AS THE HEAD OF THE ASU. MUHIY AL DIN ASSERTED THAT THE 14 TO 16-MAN CABINET HE INTENDS TO FORM IN OCTOBER WILL BE ALL OF HIS OWN MEN, WITH NO PRO-SABRI PEOPLE

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4. MUHIY AL DIN SAID THAT THE END OF 1967 IS AS LONG AS THE BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES (US) AND BRITAIN (UK) CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE. HE ADDED THAT MAHMUD FAWZI, THE PRESIDENT'S ASSISTANT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US OFFICIALS "SO AS NOT TO CUT ALL WIRES," AND THAT HE HAS ALREADY DONE THIS.

5. MUHIY AL DIN CANNOT SEE A "RED EGYPT", EITHER RUSSIAN OR CHINESE, BECAUSE BOTH ARE WORSE THAN THE WESTERN IMPERIALISTS. "WE HAVE TO CHANGE ALL OUR INTERNAL POLICIES, TO GIVE PERSONAL INITIATIVE AND INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISE A CHANCE TO REBUILD EGYPT. THIS WILL INVOLVE UNDOING NATIONALIZATIONS BECAUSE THESE 'YUGOSLAV EXPERIMENTS' HAVE RUINED OUR ECONOMY. ALL NASIR DID WAS IMITATE THE TITO REGIME.

6. "I FEEL MYSELF TO BE THE STRONGEST MAN IN EGYPT NOW, AND NASIR CANNOT PLAY THE OLD SUKARNO GAME OF BALANCING OFF THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT BECAUSE ONE OF THEM MUST WIN. IT WILL BE THE RIGHT WHICH WILL WIN. WHY? HAPPILY, ABD AL HAKIM AMIR, FOR ALL HIS MISTAKES AND WEAKNESSES, DID ONE GOOD THING; HE DIDN'T ALLOW ONE COMMUNIST OFFICER OR SOLDIER TO PENETRATE THE ARMY." [redacted] COMMENT:

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MUHIY AL DIN WAS PRESUMABLY SPEAKING OF FORMER HEAD OF THE UAR ARMED FORCES, FIELD MARSHAL AMIR.) " THE SAME THING IS TRUE OF THE POLICE, WHICH I HAVE EFFECTIVELY HEADED MYSELF SINCE 1952, DESPITE VARYING JOB TITLES; AND SO, I SHOULD KNOW. ALSO, THE MAJORITY OF THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE ARE PIOUS MUSLIMS WHO CANNOT HELP BEING ON OUR SIDE AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS.

7. "THERE WILL BE NO MORE USELESS EXPENDITURES FOR SPECIAL SERVICES ABROAD; THE BUDGET FOR THE 'MUKHABARAT' HAS BEEN CUT FROM 100 MILLION POUNDS STERLING TO 10 MILLION POUNDS A YEAR FROM NOW ON." [redacted] COMMENT: THIS PRESUMABLY REFERS TO UAR INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS. [redacted] THE EGYPTIANS HAVE BEEN SPENDING 10 MILLION POUNDS STERLING IN LEBANON ALONE, SEVEN MILLION SUBSIDIZING NEWSPAPERS AND THREE MILLION FOR THE ARAB UNIVERSITY AND FOR SUPPORTERS LIKE KAMAL JUMBLATT.) "OUR INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IS THE MOST IGNORANT IN THE WORLD. WHEREAS THE ISRAELIS KNEW THE NAME OF EVERY EGYPTIAN ON RELIEF, AND HIS WIFE'S NAME TOO, WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHERE MOSHE DAYAN'S HOUSE WAS."

1.3(a)(4)
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8. [redacted] DISSEM: STATE ARMY DEFENSE ATTACHE CINCMEAFSA (ALSO SENT [redacted]

REPORT CLASS: [redacted]

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